Memory:72
★ Training Challenge! ★

Three Caverns "Heart" Route
L-LOOKS LIKE WE'RE COMPLETELY SURROUNDED~!
YES, HOWEVER...
LEAVE THIS TO ME!

STONE LANCE!
HERE WE GO BRUNZEL! CREATE THE NEW MODEL!
All right Master!

MEIST ARM VANGUARD SHIFT!!
ROCK CANNON!

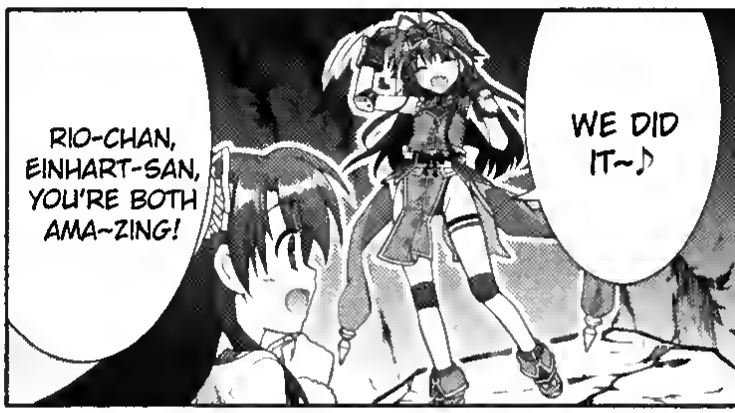
ALRIGHT. LET'S CLEAN UP HERE AND CONTINUE FORWARD~!
THAT'S RIGHT!
NO KIDDING~
CORONA-SAN'S... AWESOME...

Around the Same Time
Three Caverns "Power" Route
RIO-CHAN, EINHART-SAN, BE CAREFUL~!
TOOH!
FIRE DRAGON! LIGHTNING DRAGON!
IF IT'S JUST THE ARMS THAT CAN MOVE QUICKLY... THEN!

DOUBLE DRAGON SMASH!!
I'LL AIM FOR THE SHOULDER JOINTS SUPPORTING THEM!
THE MOVE I LEARNED DURING THE TRAINING CAMP THAT ALWAYS SAVED ME WHEN I WAS IN A TIGHT SPOT.

I'LL TAKE IT FURTHER!
SKY BREAKING SEVER - MODIFIED (TEMP)!

THAT WAS A GOOD COMBINATION, AS USUAL, RIO-SAN.
DON'T MENTION IT~♪


RIO-CHAN, EINHART-SAN, YOU'RE BOTH AMA~ZING!
WE DID IT~♪

WE'LL BE FINE! NO MATTER THE TRIAL!
WE'LL CUT OUR WAY THROUGH.

HEY, YOU DON'T THINK THE "POWER" TRIAL IS OVER WITH JUST THIS...
YEAH, NO WAY~
I DON'T FEEL LIKE IT'S OVER YET.

THIS IS IMPRESSIVE RINNA-SAN... TO OPERATE ALL OF THOSE GOLEMS AT ONCE.
NO BIGGY. THE OPERATING ITSELF IS EASY, AND I GAVE THEM SIMPLE MOVEMENT COMMANDS WHEN I MADE THEM.

HM~ EVERYONE GOT THROUGH THE OPENING ACT JUST FINE~!

SHALL WE CHALLENGE THEIR WEAK SPOTS?
NOW! AFTER WE RAISE THE TENSION BY SHOWING OFF THEIR STRONG POINTS...
HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH

I CAME UP WITH THIS TRAINING MENU AFTER ASKING NOVE-CHAN ABOUT EVERYONE'S STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES EARLIER.

ONCE THEY REACH THE GOAL, THEY SHOULD BE AWARE OF THEIR OWN ISSUES... THAT'S THE PLAN!
AND YOU'RE ALLOWING THEM TO EXPERIENCE THAT THROUGH THE TRIALS IN THE THREE CAVERNS.

WOAH!
Around the Same Time
Three Caverns "Skill" Route
I SEE. THIS WILL BE GOOD TRAINING.
FORCING THEM TO TRAIN WITH ONLY THEIR BODIES' CAPABILITIES INSTEAD OF RELYING ON THE SUPPORT OF THEIR DEVICES.
Hah
ESPECIALLY FOR VIVIO-CHAN AND MIURA-CHAN.

AUGH!
AGAIN...! THEY FORCE THEIR WAY IN WITH A TACKLE, THEN CLINCH...!
NNGH~...!

EVEN THOUGH I HIT IT, I CAN'T PUSH IT AWAY! IT JUST FOLLOWS ME INTO ANOTHER GRAPPLE!
AUGH!

IF IT'S A GRAPPLER LIKE SIEG-SAN AND CAN USE THOSE THROWS AND SLEEPER HOLDS...
EVEN THOUGH THIS SHOULD BE MY RANGE...
E... EVEN THOUGH I'VE BEEN IN CLOSE COMBAT THIS WHOLE TIME...
TEEEEH!

WOAH!
!

I CAN'T USE MY SKILLS LIKE I DO IN PRACTICE... AND THESE UNNATURAL BLOWS CAN'T HIT!
IT'S EXTREMELY HARD TO DO ANYTHING!

YEAH. MY STYLE HAS SOME EXPLOSIVE POWER, BUT ITS FLAW AND WEAKNESS IS THAT IT'S TOO EASY TO READ.
THESE TWO REALLY ARE PRETTY SIMILAR.
WELL, THIS IS SET UP TO BE A PRETTY TOUGH STYLE OF TRAINING~
THOSE TWO ARE HAVING A ROUGH TIME...

THOSE TWO ARE PROBABLY THINKING THE SAME THING ABOUT NOW: "SOMEHOW THIS FIGHT..."
VIVIO-CHAN'S STYLE AS A STRIKER MAY BE TOO CLEAN. SHE CAN'T HANDLE THIS DOWN AND DIRTY FIGHTING.
MIURA-SAN HAS TROUBLE WITH HER CLOSE COMBAT WHENEVER EVEN THE SLIGHTEST DISTANCE IS MADE~ PROBABLY BECAUSE SHE DOESN'T HAVE MUCH MATCH EXPERIENCE WITH IN-FIGHTERS.
SHE'S THE KIND OF KID WHO ONLY SEES TWO OPTIONS WHILE FIGHTING: "CAN I REACH AT THIS DISTANCE, OR CAN'T I?"

ISN'T FUN AT ALL...

SHE HAS TO GET OVER THIS "WEAKNESS", OR ELSE SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO WIN AND ADVANCE IN REAL MATCHES.
RIGHT~

MIURA'S TEACHERS SAID IT AS WELL: WHAT SHE NEEDS TO FOCUS ON AFTER BEING TAUGHT THE BASICS IS TO INCREASE THE REACH OF HER SPECIAL SKILLS.
HER TEA-CHERS.

OF COURSE THERE IS.
IT'S THAT SORT OF CHALLENGE THAT SETS THE INSTRUCTOR'S HEART ABLAZE.

BUT THERE IS A WAY THEY CAN OVERCOME THOSE, ISN'T THERE?
RIO AND EVEN EINHART HAVE THOSE KINDS OF "WEAKNESSES", SO...

AS WELL AS THE EXPERIENCE AND CONFIDENCE TO MEET THE TRIALS.
BEING AWARE OF YOUR "WEAKNESS" AND FINDING A WAY TO OVERCOME IT.

THAT'S THE "TREASURE" AT THE END OF THIS EXPLORATION.

SO THAT'S WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT.

I SEE~
IT'S SOMETHING I HOPE YEN AND XUE WILL ALSO LEARN WHILE TAGGING ALONG WITH THEM.

GOOD DAY, RINNA-SAN.
IRENE! AND CLAIRE TOO!
SORRY FOR BUTTING IN.
NO, I'M SORRY. OUR TWO IDIOTS SENT YOU A RATHER SUDDEN INVITATION, HUH?
WELL, THAT'S NOT OUTSIDE THE NORM... MORE IMPORTANTLY, RINNA-SAN.
IF YOU'D LIKE, WE'D BE HAPPY TO ASSIST WITH ADVANCING YOUR DESIGN.
REALLY?

AH, NOVE-CHAN, DEED-CHAN. LET ME INTRODUCE YOU!

I'M THE SUPERVISING COACH FOR RIO'S TEAM, NOVE NAKAJIMA.
AND I'M A SISTER OF THE SAINT KING CHURCH, DEED.

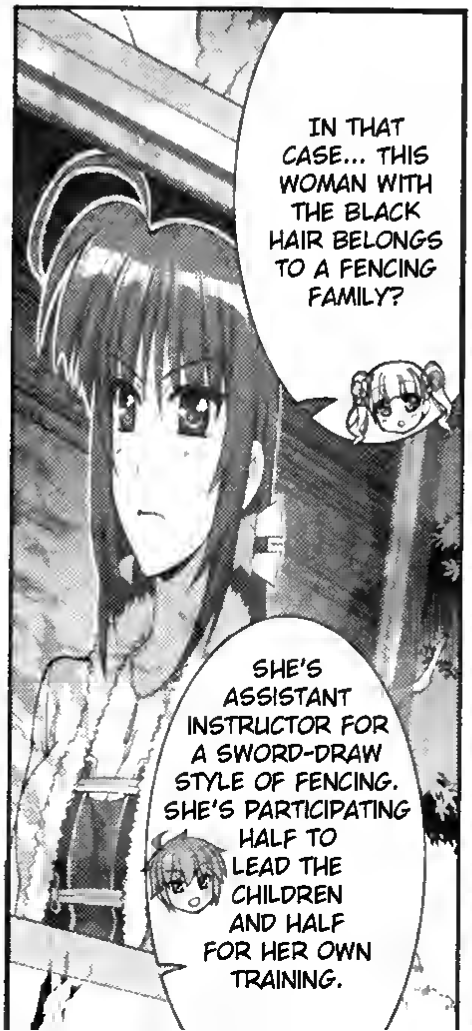
I'M IRENE HARDIN, OF THE FIST OF THE LUSTROUS HUANG'S HEAD FAMILY.

NOW THEN. WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO FIGHT AGAINST, IRENE?
HM. LET'S SEE...

OUR FIST OF THE SPRING SUNLIGHT MINGLES WITH IRENE'S FIST OF THE LUSTROUS HUANG, SO RIO AND IRENE ARE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS.
THAT'S CORRECT... AH, AND THIS IS MY BUTLER, CLAIRE.
AH, NICE TO MEET YOU.

AS YOU CAN SEE, IRENE'S QUITE STRONG.
YEAH, I GOT THAT FEELING.
IT WOULD BE NICE TO GO UP AGAINST RIO SINCE IT'S BEEN SO LONG... AND I WOULD LIKE TO BE WITH TAO, BUT...
RINNA-SAN! I HAVE TAKEN AN INTEREST IN THESE TWO!
LIKE I FIGURED?

I MAY NOT BE CAPABLE TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR THEM, BUT... I BELIEVE I WOULD BE QUITE USEFUL AS AN OPPONENT.
THE BLONDE GIRL IS A MEMBER OF MY TEAM, WHILE THE GIRL WITH THE SHORT CUT IS A PROMINENT COMPETITOR THAT'S WON HER WAY THROUGH THE INTERMIDDLE.
SO THE TWO OF THEM ARE COMPETITORS IN MODERN MARTIAL ARTS.


IN THAT CASE... THIS WOMAN WITH THE BLACK HAIR BELONGS TO A FENCING FAMILY?
SHE'S ASSISTANT INSTRUCTOR FOR A SWORD-DRAW STYLE OF FENCING. SHE'S PARTICIPATING HALF TO LEAD THE CHILDREN AND HALF FOR HER OWN TRAINING.

NO, NO. I'M THE ONE ASKING TO DO IT.
IN THAT CASE, COULD YOU DO THIS FOR US?

YEAH.
AND I'M SURE A FIGHT WITH A LIVE HUMAN WOULD BE MORE ENJOYABLE THAN THOSE WOODEN DOLLS!

I HAVE LEARNED BUT A SMALL BIT IN MY EXPERIENCE AS A BUTLER.
OH MY. ARE YOU A FENCER AS WELL, CLAIRE-SAN?
THAT BEING THE CASE, COULD YOU PRACTICE WITH HER CLAIRE?
IF THOSE ARE YOUR ORDERS.
YEAH.
NOVE-CHAN, YOU'RE GOING TO WHERE RIO AND EINHART-CHAN ARE, RIGHT?
THEN CORONA-CHAN, XUE AND TAO ARE UP TO ME. I HAVE TO FORGE THEIR HEARTS!

I HAVEN'T GIVEN UP ON THAT GIRL YET.
I KNOW, IT'S FINE.
HM?
AH, RINNA-SAN. PLEASE GO EASY ON TAO...
SORRY NOVE-CHAN, DEED-CHAN. A LOT'S HAPPENED WITH TAO... I'LL EXPLAIN LATER.
I'M SURE GRANDPA HAD TAO GO ALONG WITH EVERYONE ELSE THIS TIME BECAUSE... HE FEELS THE SAME WAY.
AAH, SURE.

EH!?
NOW, WE'VE GOT TO GET YOU CHANGED INTO A DISGUISE NOVE-CHAN!
TA
DA
AREN'T YOU GETTING A LITTLE OFF-TOPIC HERE!?
NOVE-CHAN'S SUCH A BEAUTY. I THINK IT'S A WASTE TO STICK TO THAT BOYISH STYLE YOU'VE GOT GOING~
すりすり
COME ON, IT'S FINE~♪
NO, NO, RINNA-CHAN! I CAN TAKE CARE OF THE DISGUISE MYSELF!
SO YOU WON'T BE FOUND OUT WHEN YOU DROP IN! I'LL SHOW YOU MY TRANSFORMATION MAKE-UP~
ズズズズ…
ER, THEY JUST MET TODAY.
THEY GET ALONG QUITE WELL... HOW LONG HAVE THEY BEEN FRIENDS?
NO~ WAY~!
IT'S FINE. JUST LEAVE IT TO ME~♪
ゴゴ
ゴゴ
ゴゴ

3 Minutes Later
A~ND! DONE!
EH~?
GO ON, SHOW DEED-CHAN AND IRENE!
NO, SORRY, I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT TO THINK...
WHAT D'YOU THINK? LOOKS GOOD, RIGHT?
NO, EVEN IF I NEED A DISGUISE~
INDEED.
YOU LOOK SPLENDID.
...OH MY.

IS THERE REALLY A NEED TO CHANGE THIS MUCH?
WELL, I'LL DO MY BEST.
NOW GO GET TO COACHING RIO AND EINHART-CHAN!
WELL... THANKS, I GUESS...
I AGREE.
AS A DISGUISE, IT REALLY BRINGS OUT YOUR CHARMS.
I THINK IT'S EXCELLENT, ONEE-SAMA.

YEAH!
ALL RIGHT IRENE! WE SHOULD GET GOING TOO!
WE'LL GIVE THEM ALL A SHOW♪
THE SKILL AND HEART OF LUFEN MARTIAL ARTS!

魔法少女リリカル なのは
Vivid
...To Be Continued

あとがき

14巻ですよ。
人間の年齢に直すと
る一子&エリオ&キャロの仲良しトリオと同い年ですよ。

ルーフェン紀行編は新キャラも登場して
ちょっと真面目に武術&格闘談義したり、
ちょっとだけ謎があったりなお話です。
もちろん修行だけでは終わらないのでそのあたりは次巻で是非。

そういえばアニメが始まってますね。
アニメ業界に関わってもう結構経ちますが
自分の作品で、なおかつ自分がシナリオを担当していない
アニメというのはものすごく久しぶりだったりします。
なんだか不思議な気持ちで、原作者として少しだけ
お手伝いをさせてもらったりしています。

キャストもおなじみの皆さんに加えて、アニメで新たに声がついた
トップファイターズ一同もばっちり素敵な感じにハマってます。
是非一度お聞きいただければと。

それではまた15巻で！

都築真紀

VIVID CHAPTER 72 CREDITS

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